

REMARKS

The claims of the current application have been reviewed in light of the Advisory Action dated November 7, 2003 and the telephonic interview extended by the Examiner on January 13, 2004 and subsequent discussions with the Examiner. Applicant's attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview and subsequent discussions.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-13, 18, 19 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-13, 18, 19 are rejected. Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, and 18 to further limit the claims, and canceled claim 14, thereby addressing the Examiner's concern in maintaining the rejection.

Claim 1 is amended to further limit the method step of applying a patterned discontinuous, homogenous liquid layer of a tackifier resin. The negative limitation of the curing step is removed.

Claim 6 is amended to further limit the group of tackifier resin by removing thermoplastic resin.

Claim 18 is amended to further limit the method step of applying a patterned discontinuous, homogenous liquid coating of a tackifier resin, and correct an informality.

Applicant asks that the Examiner reconsider the rejections of these claims in light of these amendments, which further limit the scope of the claims. Applicant requests entry of the amendment and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-13, 18, 19.

Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and requests such allowance. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1059.

Respectfully submitted

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By: 

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